



natsiwa

NATIONAL ABORIGINAL AND  
TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER WOMEN'S ALLIANCE

FIRST EDITION 2017: Newsletter March 2017

ceo@natsiwa.org.au



Sandra Creamer

## A Note from Our interim CEO

I would like to take this time to introduce myself to all members of NATSIWA. My name is Sandra Creamer a proud Kalkadoon/Wanyyi woman from Mount Isa, Queensland.

I have been involved in Women's issues for many years. My fight for change started when I was working for Legal Aid Queensland as an Indigenous Community Officer mainly working with victims of crime. I then undertook a law degree and it opened the doors for me to work internationally as well.

What inspires me in my work are the kind spirits of many women and their journey of determination to make life for themselves and families a better place.

The laws and policies are set high and never intended for Indigenous people and especially Indigenous women in the world. But it is our sisters in the world and in Australia that continue to challenge and fight for change. I have met so many women in the world and each time I meet and speak with them it empowers me, they are my empowerment and it is through them that I am who I am today.

NATSIWA would like to share your stories as well and what is going on in your workplace or communities or what you are doing, we would like to also publish at least two member profiles each newsletter please contact our Policy Officer at [analyst@natsiwa.org.au](mailto:analyst@natsiwa.org.au).

## Our Board

### Chairperson

Mariette Cowley  
(WA)

### Deputy Chairperson

Ngarla Kunoth  
Monks (NT)

### Treasurer

Ivy Trevallion  
(TSI)

### Board Member

Karin Williams  
(VIC)

### Board Member

Lydia George  
(ACT)

### Board Member

Jamie Cave (TAS)

### Board Member

Joyce Bonney  
(interim QLD)

### Board Member

Anna Strezlecki  
(interim SA)

### Board Member

Vacant (NSW)



natsiwa

NATIONAL ABORIGINAL AND  
TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER WOMEN'S ALLIANCE

## *A message from the Chair- Mary Cowley*

**I would like to introduce the new interim members of the Board of Directors until the AGM and Staff Members until 30<sup>th</sup> June to NATSIWA.**

**Queensland:** Joyce Bonney

**South Australia:** Anna Strezlecki

Interim Staff Members until 30<sup>th</sup> June 2017

The position Of CEO was appointed to Sandra Creamer by an interview process with the Executive Directors and the position of Project Officer was appointed to Kadie Aaskov by Sandra Creamer and approved by the Executive Directors.

Thank you all and enjoy our newsletter, we look forward to hearing your stories in our next newsletter. I encourage you to send your stories to share

### *Our Staff*

#### **Chief Executive Officer (Interim)**

Sandra Creamer

For operational matters including requests to work collaboratively with NATSIWA, please email

[ceo@natsiwa.org.au](mailto:ceo@natsiwa.org.au)

#### **Project Officer (Interim)**

Ms Kadie Aaskov

For all enquiries, please contact Kadie Aaskov via email

[analyst@natsiwa.org.au](mailto:analyst@natsiwa.org.au)



**Organisations wishing to work collaboratively with NATSIWA that have a shared agenda are welcome to contact the NATSIWA Chairperson or Chief Executive Officer to develop a Memorandum of Understanding.**



natsiwa

NATIONAL ABORIGINAL AND  
TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER WOMEN'S ALLIANCE

## Jamie Cave (picture on the right) sharing her information on her attendances at meetings representing NATSIWA

Australian Indigenous Liberation Workshop

**The Australian Indigenous Liberation Workshop, held by Re-evaluation Counselling Communities (RC)** and hosted by Native American Woman Darlene Danielson Oji-Cree from Garden Hill First Nation. The workshop dealt with internalised oppression and discussed many of the key areas we NATSIWA focuses on – family and domestic violence, economic security for women, leadership, substance abuse and more.

**Our delegate at the Australian Indigenous Liberation Workshop, was our Tasmanian Board Member Jamie Cave** who was inspired by the strong cohort of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women in attendance.

Commission on the Status of Women – United Nations, New York from 13-24<sup>th</sup> March 2017

**Jamie will be representing NATSIWA at the CSW in New York. Jamie attended the pre-meeting for those attending the conference in Melbourne on the 17<sup>th</sup> February.** This was a meet and greet and to see and a great opportunity to learn about the process which of the CSW and to meet other women who will be attending from Australia, and to learn about what the Australian Government is focusing on. There was a lot of discussion about the Zero Draft: however, at the time the Sex Discrimination Commission Kate Jenkins declined to make public what "Australia's response is".



Jamie Cave – Board Member (Tasmania)

## Upcoming Events

### AIATSIS National Indigenous Research Conference 2017 – 21-23 March 2017

Barton ACT

This conference is convened by AIATSIS and the University of Canberra at Hotel Realm, Barton ACT Further information email: [anirc@aiatsis.gov.au](mailto:anirc@aiatsis.gov.au)

### The 2017 NAIDOC Local Grant funding round opening soon.

The 2017 NAIDOC Local Grant funding will be open in late March 2017. For updates please check the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet website regularly.

**The National NAIDOC Committee is currently seeking Expressions of Interest (EOI)** from across the country to be the 2018 or 2019 National NAIDOC Host City. Closes AEST Monday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2017. Check out the NAIDOC website for further information.





natsiwa

NATIONAL ABORIGINAL AND  
TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER WOMEN'S ALLIANCE

**Today is International Women's Day the 8<sup>th</sup> March, the theme is "Be Bold for Change".**

Below is a picture of one of our many women how are making a bold for change. Ester Warcon (Gesá) a Murray Island woman and Manager of Centrelink in Yeppoon, was acknowledged this week for being a leader in the community.



This year we had our first woman as the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner, June Oscar. There are many of our sisters in Australia making the bold move of change, congratulation and well done to you all.

National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women's Alliance wishes you all the best on this day, may you all "be bold for change" and walk with a strong heart and spirit in your change.

Another woman making a bold for change is Kim Henschke (nee Blackman) a Wannyi/Butchulla woman. Kim a registered nurse and remote area mid wife decided after her 5 children had grown up she want to follow her dream and out to a remote community/region to work. Kim went to Ramingining in East Arnhem Land to help the women in that region. Go to our Facebook page this week and hear and see the stories of our women making a "be bold for change".

